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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

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OCT 8 1982

EA #

82-2514

MEMORANDUM TO SELECTED DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY HEADS

FROM: Joseph R. Wright, Jr.
Deputy Director

SUBJECT: Review of Federal Publications -- Reform '88

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The Reform '88 effort is under way and you will be receiving results of our combined efforts to improve the management of the Federal government and to reduce costs. An area that continually receives public attention is periodicals and pamphlets since printing had been growing during the previous Administration. We are making real progress in reversing that trend.

We have just completed a major review of federal periodicals and pamphlets. Our report on this inventory of periodicals and pamphlets is provided for your information. At an October 6 news conference, I announced the results of the initial phase of the Reagan Administration's continuing drive to eliminate costly, redundant and superfluous publications.

In response to the April 1981 Presidential directive and the exhaustive review conducted by the agencies and OMB, sixteen percent of all government publications will be discontinued. The number of government publications will be reduced from about 12,000 to 10,000. While a number of agencies are taking significant actions to reduce this inventory, the report reveals that some agencies are not doing enough to fulfill the President's memorandum of April 20, 1981, to eliminate wasteful spending on these activities.

We will be monitoring future progress toward the President's goal of eliminating or reducing unnecessary and low-priority publications. This will be done as a part of the management tracking system designed for Management Reform '88. Please revise your goals for inclusion in this system by further reducing spending for publications, and reflecting these reductions in revised Exhibits A, B, and C to Supplement No. 1 of Bulletin 81-16.

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All agencies should review the list of publications and add those that have not yet been inventoried. This inventory list should be reduced significantly by your next review. These marked-up exhibits need to be received by November 15, 1982, to be reviewed during the 1984 Budget process. As a part of the cost reduction effort, you should review your periodicals to obtain higher user fees, and to determine the applicability of OMB Circular A-3 to more of your periodicals. We will be conducting an interagency review to identify additional duplication and overlap in existing publications. Materials specific to each agency are attached for your staff's review.

We look forward to your continued cooperation in fulfilling the President's objective in this important management improvement initiative. If your staff have any questions, please have them call our Management Improvement and Evaluation Division (395-5193).

Attachments